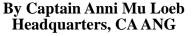


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"What kept me going was knowing that I would eventually be running down the hill." Captain Brenda Hendricksen is the first California National Guard female runner to ever win the National Guard Bureau's Marathon Trials at Lincoln Nebraska. On May 4, 2003. Hendricksen, a plans officer for the 163rd Air Refueling Wing, March Air Reserve Base, California Air National Guard, posted a time of 3:44.38 in the 20th Annual event. She endured 26.2 miles and a constant downpour of rain. "It was such a wonderful surprise," said Hendricksen. "I was really nervous because when I talked to all the Guard people, many of them had run this race many times. This was my first time."

Hendricksen said she was proud to represent the California National Guard at the Lincoln Marathon. She added that the hardest part of the race was going up the hill right before mile twenty. "It was a killer," she said. "What kept me going was knowing that I would eventually be running down the hill."

Chief Warrant Officer five, Brian Peterson, 52, Headquarters, State Area Command, participated in his 20th National Guard Bureau Marathon, posting a time of 3:17.17.

She is now one of 15 women, and the only female member from California, to hold the much coveted position on the National Guard Marathon Team. She will now be able to participate in two NGB-sponsored marathons in the next 12 months. She is honored and proud to represent the National Guard and the state of California.